ONE HUNDRED SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216
(202) 225-3951
Judiciary.house.gov

April 27, 2021

The Honorable Merrick B. Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Garland:

On March 29, 2021, we requested information from you about how the Biden Administration plans to enforce federal law and protect federal property from violent left-wing extremists in Portland, Oregon. We requested that you provide this information by April 12. You have ignored this request.

Since our request, left-wing agitators have continued to vandalize and destroy federal property in Portland, Oregon. On April 11, 2021, rioters set fire to a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) building.<sup>1</sup> After the building was set on fire, federal agents and local police officers arrived and attempted to disperse the crowd.<sup>2</sup> On April 12, 2021, over two-hundred individuals gathered outside the Penumbra Kelly Building, which provides an office for the Multnomah County Sheriff and Portland police, and began throwing rocks, frozen water bottles, glass bottles, and fireworks at law-enforcement officers.<sup>3</sup> On April 16, rioters vandalized multiple businesses, museums and places of worship, including the First Christian Church.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Michael Lee, *Rioters set Portland ICE facility on fire as federal agents shoot barrage of pepper bullets in an attempt to disperse crowd*, WASH. EXAMINER (April 11, 2021), https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/news/rioters-portland-ice-fire-agents-pepper-bullets.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Associated Press, *Portland police declares riot after vigil for Duante Wright*, WASH. TIMES (Apr. 13, 2021), https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2021/apr/13/portland-police-declares-riot-after-vigil-for-daun/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Shane Dixon Kavanaugh, *Portland church, park, historical society damaged in downtown riot: 'The destruction is pretty gnarly'*, THE OREGONIAN (Apr. 17, 2021), https://www.oregonlive.com/news/2021/04/portland-church-park-historical-society-damaged-in-downtown-riot-the-destruction-is-pretty-gnarly.html.

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The Biden Administration must not condone continued left-wing violence against federal property in Portland. We reiterate the requests made in our March 29 letter and ask that you provide a full response immediately. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Jordan

Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler

Chairman